

Finch & C^o



A FINE SOUTH GERMAN CARVED IVORY DAGGER OR KNIFE HANDLE

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DEPICTING A ROARING LION, HIS MANE FALLING DOWN HIS BACK

LATE 17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 13CM LONG – 5 INS LONG

LITERATURE

A CUTLER WAS ESSENTIALLY A MAKER OR SELLER OF ANY ARTEFACT HAVING A CUTTING EDGE. THEY PURCHASED BLADES AND EMPLOYED A GRINDER TO SHARPEN THEM AND A FURBISHER TO FINISH THEM, THE HAFTS AND HANDLES AND SHEATHS WERE BOUGHT IN AND THE PARTS ASSEMBLED AND THE FINISHED PRODUCT MARKETED BY THE CUTLER.

THEIR WEALTH PRIMARILY DERIVED FROM THE BULK SALES OF SWORDS, DAGGERS AND OTHER SMALL ARMS TO GOVERNMENTS OR MONARCHS, AND DURING THE 15TH AND 16TH CENTURIES THE DEMANDS OF CONTINUAL WARFARE YIELDED THEM A RICH LIVING.